

WETS VICTORS IN FIRST ISSUE OVER DRY BILL

House District Committee Votes
Not to Lengthen Its
Session.

TODAY'S HEARING WAS BRIEF

Committee Will Consider Time
Limit on Hearings in Ex-
ecutive Session.

Prohibition hearings before the
House District Committee opened to-
day with a preliminary skirmish be-
tween opponents and advocates of the
Sheppard bill, and the opponents of
legislation for a saloonless National
Capital won the first engagement of
words and wits.

This victory was the refusal of the
committee to set aside its regular ad-
journing hour each day and to con-
tinue hearings while the House is in
session. The present rule of the com-
mittee is adjournment ten minutes be-
fore the House convenes. By a vote of
9 to 7 the committee declined to
change the adjournment hour, which
will be 10:50 a. m. so long as the
House continues to meet at 11 o'clock.

Dryers Have First Lining.

At the comparatively brief hearing
today the "drys" had their first lin-
ing. Congressman Barkley of Ken-
tucky, whose bill is a companion
measure to the Sheppard bill, as it
passed the Senate, opened the discus-
sion. He said advocates of the bill
"want only two or three hours to dis-
cuss this matter, and desire that the
hearings be expedited."

Representatives of the District of
Columbia Referendum Association and
several members of the commit-
tee insisted that hearings should not
be rushed, which would deny right
of citizens of the District to present
fully their views.

Hearings to Run Hour a Day.

The committee action on the ad-
journing hour indicates that the
hearings will continue for about an
hour each day—unless there should
be a modification of present plans.

As the committee met today Con-
gressmen Lloyd and Vinson suggest-
ed that the committee should set a
time for the end of the hearings.

In this view the prohibitionists col-
lided. Congressman Cary and
Burke said District residents were
entitled to a full hearing. Charles J.
Columbus, representing the District
of Columbia Referendum Association,
informed the committee that eleven
organizations and a number of rep-
resentative citizens and taxpayers
desired to be heard on the merits of
a referendum amendment.

Discussion Fruitless.

After a fruitless discussion, Chair-
man Johnson announced that it seem-
ed impossible today to agree upon
the length of the hearings, but the
committee would take the matter up
in executive session tomorrow morn-
ing. The hearing then proceeded with
Mr. Barkley making the opening ar-
gument for the Sheppard-Barkley bill.
The District Committee room was
crowded with delegations represent-
ing the Anti-Saloon League, the Wom-
en's Christian Temperance Union, the
(Continued on Page Thirteen.)

STREET HEARS WAR SCARE

Rumor on Stock Exchange De-
clared Germany Makes Move.

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—An evident
effort "to put something over" in the
stock market was made by means of
certain private wires operated by
brokers about noon today, through the
circulation of a "rumor" that Germany
had declared war on the United States.

Messages from various cities
showed that the "rumor" was attrib-
uted to several different sources, all
of whom absolutely denied any
knowledge of it.

CONFESSES PURSE TAKING

Nineteen-Year-Old Boy Made Busi-
ness of Taking Pocketbooks.

Snatching women's pocketbooks and
handbags in the streets was a "busi-
ness" with Waverly Pierson, colored,
nineteen years old. The man so in-
formed Judge Gould, when arraigned in Crimi-
nal division, No. 1, of the District Su-
preme court today.

"How many pocketbooks do you think
you have snatched?" inquired the court.
On the prisoner's display of hesitancy
in answering the court asked "As many
as a dozen."

"Oh, yes, sir," answered the defendant.
He was asked to a query as to whether
or not he had anything to say to the
court, that he wished to place himself
on the mercy of the court.

"Six years in the penitentiary," said
Judge Gould, pronouncing sentence.

LINER'S SAILING UNCERTAIN

Owners of St. Louis Thought to Be
Awaiting Naval Convoy.

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—The date for
the sailing of the American liner St.
Louis, originally scheduled to leave
this port last week for Liverpool, to-
day was just as indefinite as before.
She has been announced as ready to
depart tomorrow, but officials of the
line stated there was nothing certain
in the announcement.

It is believed the line's owners are
endeavoring to persuade the Govern-
ment to send a naval convoy, inas-
much as she will carry United States
mail.

ONE AMERICAN SHIP IS IN BARRED ZONE

Steamer New York Among
Those of Many Nationalities
In Restricted Territory.

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—One Ameri-
can ship, the New York, is among the
ships speeding today through the
submarine danger zone.
The White Star liners Baltic and
Adriatic also are dangerously near
the forbidden territory. The Baltic
sailed more than a week ago and
should be near the end of her jour-
ney. The British admiralty has re-
fused to announce the arrival of ves-
sels, so she may reach port unknown
to this side. The Adriatic left Sat-
urday.

The Cunard liner Carmania sailed
for Liverpool Sunday. The French
liner Rochambeau left Sunday for
Bordeaux. The French liner freighter
Ladrome is well on her way, having
left New York last Thursday.

There are many smaller ships of
various nationalities on their way
either to the United States or Eu-
ropean ports. With few exceptions
they carry absolute contraband. The
New York is the only one of the
large ships not so loaded.

WILSON SUSPENDS ALL ENGAGEMENTS

Meets Cabinet for Discussion of
Plans for Co-ordinating

All Work.

President Wilson suspended all en-
gagements today that he might de-
votely his entire time to the interna-
tional situation.

The President met the Cabinet this
afternoon. Plans were discussed for
co-ordination of all Governmental ac-
tivities in event of war.

Telegrams and letters continued to
pour in on the White House from gov-
ernors of States, and prominent citi-
zens assuring the President of their
support, and from heads of manu-
facturing institutions offering plans to
the Government.

The American Sugar and Refining
Company, under fire of the Govern-
ment in times past as the "sugar
trust" placed its plants all over the
country at the disposal of the Govern-
ment.

ASKS VACATION FOR POLICE

Penrose Urges 30 Days Annually
and Similar Sick Leave.

Senator Penrose introduced an
amendment to the District appropria-
tion bill granting thirty days' annual
leave and thirty days' sick leave, with
pay, each year to the Metropolitan
police.

The Commissioners may, on recom-
mendation, extend the sick leave, ac-
cording to the amendment.

MILDER WEATHER DUE

Temperature Will Continue to Rise,
Weather Men Predict.

Washington began to shake off its
second attack of real winter last
night and this morning, and when
northwest winds subsided the tempera-
ture rose 10 degrees.

At 10 o'clock this morning the mer-
cury rested at 17. The coldest of the
last twenty-four hours was at 9
o'clock last night, when the ther-
mometer registered 9 above. By morn-
ing it had risen 3 degrees, and the
climb upward after the sun came up
was steady.

While it will not be exactly warm
tomorrow, weather officials said it
would not be so uncomfortable. The
forecast is that the temperature will
continue to rise today. The lowest
tonight will be 16 degrees.

THICK ICE ON BASIN

Will Be Kept Open for Skaters
Tonight.

Skaters take heed!
There is ice on the Basin—plenty
of ice—more ice in fact, according
to Col. W. W. Harts, in charge of
public buildings and grounds, than
Washingtonians have enjoyed in
years—and it is as smooth as glass
and strong enough to hold an ox.

The Basin was thrown open to the
public at 8 o'clock this morning, and
already hundreds of enthusiasts are
gliding over the smooth surface,
while scores and scores of others are
on their way.

Realizing that Washingtonians do
not often have such an opportunity as
this for skating, Colonel Harts an-
nounces that the Basin will be kept
open at night until 10 o'clock.

JOHN D. WINS TAX SUIT

Three Hundred Millions Can't Be
Assessed, Court Holds.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Feb. 6.—The
United States circuit court of appeals
decided today the treasurer of Cuya-
hoga county cannot collect taxes on
\$311,000,000 worth of bonds and other
property of John D. Rockefeller.

HOSPITALS OFFERED TO U. S.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 6.—The Hospital
for Consumptives of Maryland, at
Towson, was today offered to the
United States Government in case of
war to be used for hospital purposes.

The board of directors of the Mary-
land General Hospital, Baltimore, also
offered their institution to the Gov-
ernment.

BOLLING AGAIN QUESTIONED IN LEAK INQUIRY

President's Brother-in-Law Ask-
ed About Business and Rela-
tions With White House.

MRS. VISCONTI MAY TESTIFY

Believed "Woman in Case" Will
Be Called to Repeat Story
She Told Lawson.

R. Wilmer Bolling, President Wil-
son's brother-in-law, was recalled to
the witness stand in the "leak" in-
vestigation today and questioned as
to the negotiations preceding his
joining the firm of Connolly & Co.
He also was asked a number of per-
sonal and intimate questions regard-
ing his financial affairs and his rela-
tions with the White House.

At one time during his examina-
tion he was asked by Congressman
Campbell whether he believed J. Fred
Essary or Connolly sent the now
famous telegram of December 20 to
Hutton & Co. Bolling said he be-
lieved Essary sent it.

Protests Against Answering.

Asked the specific question, "As a
matter of fact, you don't believe your
partner sent any message, do you?"
Bolling protested against answering,
and was sustained by Chairman
Henry.

Whether or not Mrs. Ruth Thom-
son Visconti will be called as a wit-
ness before the committee was con-
sidered at an executive session of that
body this afternoon.

Although no announcement was
made by Chairman Henry, it is be-
lieved that the "woman in the case"
will be called to the witness stand to
repeat the story she told Thomas W.
Lawson about alleged leaks in Wash-
ington.

Quizzed About Conference.

When Bolling took the stand he
was questioned by Attorney Whipple
about the conference between him-
self and Connolly prior to his enter-
ing the firm.

The witness said terms of his join-
ing the firm were first mentioned to
him by Connolly.

"Frank told me he was Washington
representative of Hutton & Co.," said
the witness.

"He said this connection would
mean that we would share profits
with Hutton & Co. He said we would
purchase a seat on the New York
Stock Exchange and would need about
\$90,000. I contributed \$30,000 to the
capital of the firm. It was in cash."

When the witness said he had at
his office a copy of the partnership
agreement, Attorney Whipple asked
him to preserve it, as the committee
might want to see it.

Could Learn by Experience.

Bolling said Connolly stated that he,
the President's brother-in-law, could
learn the stock brokerage business
by experience, while the other mem-
bers of the firm already possessed
practical knowledge.

The witness said the firm pur-
chased a seat on the New York
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TRUCK BLOWN OFF FERRY

Two-Ton Machine Swept Into River
By Gale.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 6.—As the
ferryboat Cape May was leaving the
Camden side yesterday afternoon, a
freakish wind, driving at a thirty-five-
mile gale, caught a partly laden two-
ton truck belonging to Gimbel
Brothers under its canopy, ran it off
the rear of the ferryboat and plunged
it through the ice to the bottom of
the Delaware river.

Capt. Charles B. Uron, of the Cape
May, said there was furniture and
several dozens packages on the truck.
The chauffeur and his helper were
in the cabin when the accident hap-
pened.

BRAZIL TO PROTEST

Government, However, Will Try to
Avoid Break With Berlin.

RIO DE JANEIRO, Feb. 6.—The Bra-
zilian government announced today
that a protest will be made against
Germany's unrestricted submarine
warfare, following an hour's cabinet
meeting called by President Braz.

It was expressly stated, however,
that every effort will be made to
avoid the conflict with Germany.
The ministry of marine issued an
order suspending all Brazilian naviga-
tion.

COLD WAVE IN GERMANY

Vistula Frozen and Rhine Carries
Floating Ice.

BERLIN (via Sayville wireless),
Feb. 6.—Germany has been in the
grip of a severe cold wave, the official
press bureau reports today. The Vis-
tula has been frozen; the Rhine car-
ries floating ice and these tempera-
tures are reported: Cologne, 24 below
zero; Insternburg, 25 below; Berlin,
17.

HUSH NEWSBOY ALARMS

New York Police Permit Them to
Cry Name of Paper Only.

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—Newsdealers
and newsboys in New York today were
forbidden by the police to cry the
headlines of publications.
They may shout only the name of
the paper.

STRONG INTIMATION RECEIVED HERE BERLIN MAY MODIFY U-BOAT DECREE TO AVERT ACTUAL CLASH WITH U. S.

Amendment Offered In House
Giving President Right to
Commandeer War Plants.

ADMINISTRATION MEASURE

Plan Also Introduced to Sub-
stitute \$150,000,000 to
Speed Up Preparations.

MILLION FOR AEROS, TOO

Money Would Be Provided By
Bond Issue Maturing in
Five Years or Less.

An Administration amendment to
the naval appropriation bill authoriz-
ing the President to commandeer all
shipbuilding plants and all plants ca-
pable of producing war materials in
time of war or of national emergency
was offered in the House this after-
noon by Chairman Padgett, of the
Naval Affairs Committee.

A companion amendment places at
the disposal of the President a lump
sum appropriation of \$150,000,000 to
rush the completion of naval vessels
or other war material needed by the
nation to put it in a state of prepared-
ness for conflict.

\$1,000,000 for Aeroplanes.

A third amendment appropriates
\$1,000,000 to enable the United States
to acquire the basic patent of a suit-
able aeroplane for naval and military
service.

The amendment does not mention
by name the Wright aeroplane, but it
is understood the Government pro-
poses to take over the Wright machine
for war use.

The \$150,000,000 emergency appropria-
tion is to be met by an issue of
bonds maturing at not more than five
years and bearing 3 per cent interest.
A important action, with a "warlike
look" was taken today by the Senate
Republicans in a conference.

The Perchdexter bill for 100 addi-
tional submarines was introduced. Sen-
ator Polk pointed out that even with
that additional number the United
States would still be behind other
leading nations.

The nearest approach to the action
of today was the appropriation of
\$50,000,000 placed in the hands of
President McKinley at the outbreak
of the Spanish-American war, to be
used as the President directed.

In presenting the amendments to
the naval bill today Chairman Pad-
gett said he offered them so that
(Continued on Page Twelve.)

BAKER EXPLAINS ORDERS

Says Sudden Change in Troop
Movements of No Significance

The sudden changes in scheduled
border troop movements, announced
yesterday, were a result of "local con-
ditions," Secretary Baker said today.
Baker explained the original orders
for outward movement of Pershing's
Mexican column and homeward move-
ment of the militia still stands, as far
as the War Department is concerned.
It has been previously explained,
however, that should northern Mexi-
can conditions become bad Major Gen-
eral Funston could move or hold
troops as he saw fit.

War officials would not discuss the
possibility that reports of heavy
fighting about Chihuahua city had
anything to do with Funston's shift
of orders.

NEW SUBMARINE RUMOR

Spain Orders Warships to Start
for Home, Is Report.

NEW LONDON, Feb. 6.—Rumor that
the Spanish submarine, Isaac Peral,
has received orders to sail at once
for Spain was added to the long list
of submarine rumors here early to-
day. The boat has been here for some
time tuning up and taking on sup-
plies. Officials claim to know nothing
of the commander's orders or in-
tentions.

GERMAN RADIO SEIZED

Government Takes Over Sending
Plant At Atlantic City.

ATLANTIC CITY, Feb. 6.—The United
States Government has taken over the
wireless station at Tuckerton and re-
moved the German owners.

The plant is the only sending station
to Germany in this country. Similar pre-
caution is understood to have been taken
at the plant at Sayville, Long Island,
which is used exclusively as the re-
ceiving station.

Communication, however, is not cut off
with Germany. American officers have
assumed direction, and are to continue
sending messages until further develop-
ments in the international crisis.

RADIO STATIONS GUARDED

Work Rushed on High Fences
Around Wireless in California.

SAN DIEGO, Cal., Feb. 6.—Work is
being rushed on the building of high
barbed wire fences about the new
United States wireless stations at
Chollas and Point Loma.

Guards have been doubled at both
places.
Vessels entering the harbor are
forced to show identification numbers.
Shore leave from war vessels of the
Pacific fleet is restricted to a few
hours.

GERMANY'S OFFICIAL COMMENT ON BREACH OF RELATIONS

BERLIN, Feb. 4 (via Sayville wireless, received in New York Feb.
6).—"We regret this measure taken by President Wilson all the more
since it is against all tradition and all international law that we are
cut off from all direct communication and regular intercourse with the
trans-Atlantic world," declared Secretary of Foreign Affairs Zimmer-
mann today.

"We also remember," the foreign secretary continued, "that the
United States diplomats during the past months and years of the war
cared for German interests by proxy with efficiency and great success."
"The text of the President's message, received here, has been ex-
amined most minutely, in the absence of other official documents."

"Having ourselves no real cause for hostility against the United
States, remembering the traditionally friendly feeling that existed be-
tween the two countries practically from the first days of the United
States, we naturally appreciate the words of rather unhostile character
that are included among others of different character found in that
message as transmitted in press dispatches."

"In them President Wilson assures us that he wishes no 'hostile
conflict' with Germany, and I can add that we appreciate this and the
other paragraphs in the message, joining in this respect in President
Wilson's note."

"While to a certain extent we think we can see what reasons
prompted the United States Government to arrive at its present atti-
tude, on the other hand we expect President Wilson, to the same
extent, may recognize the reason which prompted us to make our
decision."

BELIEVE NEUTRALS REJECT PROPOSAL

Spain and Switzerland Will
Probably Refuse to Break
With Berlin.

Spain and Switzerland probably will
not accede now to President Wilson's
suggestions that all neutrals sever
diplomatic relations with Germany,
according to reliable intimations here
this afternoon.

Their course probably will be based
upon the fact that they are serving
respectively the interests of America
and Germany.

Spanish Statement Tomorrow.

Spanish Ambassador Riano indi-
cated today that Spain probably
would publish by tomorrow, some
indication of her position, but he was
doubtful this would be a formal an-
swer to President Wilson's formal
suggestions to neutrals.

The Spanish Ambassador called at
the State Department today and con-
ferred with Counselor Polk for about
thirty minutes. Neither he nor Polk
would discuss what they talked about.

Switzerland probably will take the
same course as Spain.

NAVY DEPT. NAMES CENSOR

Lieut. Belknap Will Handle All
Ship News.

To prevent publication of naval
movements which the Navy Depart-
ment believes should be withheld
from publication while present criti-
cal conditions continue, Secretary Dan-
iels today designated a censor
through whose hands all information
must pass before it reaches the press.

Lieut. Charles Belknap, Jr., was
designated censor. Lieutenant Bel-
knap was graduated from the Naval
War College in December and came
to Washington as one of the aides to
Admiral Benson, chief of naval op-
erations. Previously he had been in
command of the destroyer Ammen.
Lieutenant Belknap is a native Mary-
lander and a graduate of the 1899
class at Annapolis. He lives at 1870
Wyoming avenue.

"SUFF" GUARD INCREASED

More Volunteers Added to Watchful
White House Sentinels.

The rise in temperature after the
chilling blasts of yesterday's north-
wester brought an increased number
of surffage pickets to the White
House gates today.
At the east gate five stood guard,
while at the western entrance a quar-
tet was stationed.

While half-hour shifts were main-
tained yesterday, the sentinels are
staying on the job more than an hour
today, and one of the most enthusias-
tic "suffs" steadfastly refused to be
relieved during the morning hours.

TURKEY HAS NEW CABINET

Press Bureau Says No Change in
Policy Is Planned.

BERLIN (via Sayville wireless), Feb.
6.—Formation of a new Turkish cabinet
was announced by the official press bu-
reau today. The Turkish Grand Vizier
Said Halim Pasha resigned on account
of ill-health, and Minister of the Interior
Talat Bey was charged with the forma-
tion of a new cabinet. His ministry, as
former, is as follows:

Grand vizier, Talat Bey (also minis-
ter of finance); minister of war, Enver
Pasha; minister of marine, Deymal
Pasha.

"The Cabinet change," said the official
bureau, "means no change in policy."
The new cabinet decided to continue the
war on the side of their allies with the
utmost energy until a final victory was
achieved. The retiring grand vizier,
Prince Said Halim, belongs to the family
of the Egyptian Khedive.

German Circles Here Expect
Reassurances Soon From
Kaiser's Government.

TRANSMISSION A PUZZLE

But Rumors That Sayville Radio
Station Was Closed Prove
Erroneous.

RAY'S OF HOPE NOW SEEN

Officials Believe Situation May
Yet Be Saved; No Im-
pulsive Action.

Strong intimations are believed to have
come to President Wilson and his ad-
visers that Germany will so modify the
operation of her new war zone decree as
to prevent any occurrence that will force
the two nations into a state of war.